



# HOLY GHOST ORTHODOX CHURCH

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

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## **FEBRUARY 1, 2026 – SUNDAY OF PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE — Tone 1**

<b><u>Scripture Readings</u></b>	<b><u>Services</u></b>
<p>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2 Hebrews 7:7-17                      Luke 2:22-40</p> <p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 2 Peter 2:9-22                      Mark 13:14-23</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 2 Peter 3:1-18                      Mark 13:24-31</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5 1 John 1:8-2:6                      Mark 13:31-14:2</p> <p>FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 1 John 2:7-17                      Mark 14:3-9</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 2 Timothy 3:1-9                      Luke 20:46-21:4</p> <hr/> <p><i>All services will also be streamed online via Facebook Live as follows:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/">https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/</a></p> <p><b>Reminder:</b> The schedule of services can be found on the front page of our website, <a href="https://holyghostbpt.com/">https://holyghostbpt.com/</a> The schedule is recorded on the Google Calendar of the church's acct. You can add it to your own Google Calendar by clicking the + sign on the bottom right corner of the calendar window</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28</b> Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 31</b> Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1</b> <b>Sunday of the Publican &amp; the Pharisee</b> <b>Beginning of the Lenten Triodion</b> <b>Fore-feast of the Meeting</b> Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Children's Choir Practice (following Liturgy) Parish Council Meeting.....11:45 a.m. <i>(Postponed from last Sunday)</i></p> <p><b>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2</b> Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. (Blessing of Candles) <b>Meeting of the Lord in the Temple</b></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4</b> Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7</b> Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m. <b>Panikhida</b> for Betty Kost from her daughter, Caroyln <i>(before Vespers)</i></p> <p><b>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8</b> Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. "Second Sunday" during coffee fellowship <b>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b> <b>After-feast of the Meeting</b></p>

## SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

The First Sunday of the Lenten Triodion we hear the Parable of the Publican and the Pharisee, the story of two men who went to the Temple to pray.

This is a story of a well-respected Pharisee and a despised Publican or tax collector. We would think that the Pharisee would be the one who would receive the respect from Jesus but the opposite is true for it was the humility and humbleness of the tax collector that Jesus praises.

The two distinct stereotypes were utilized to show that Jesus did not care about conventional stereotypes but rather looked into the hearts of these men and seeing the boastfulness of the self-righteous Pharisee and appreciated the penitence of the Publican who came to the Temple with a contrite heart beseeching God's help.



This parable exemplifies the often-distorted notion that Christians tend to have simply because they are Christian. Pharisaic pride is one of the most dreadful and infectious diseases of Christianity. We are confronted with a shocking exposure of the wrongs or sinfulness of our Christianity: your sin and my sin. We often have subtly made our Christianity a sign of virtue and wrongly privileged.

The heart of the Publican's prayer is an intense appeal filled with trust, to the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is a model of penitentiary that we should emulate as we approach the start of Great Lent.

May we offer our own prayers to God as did the Publican, not with boastful words, but with true humility.

*St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church*

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### **2 Timothy 3:10-15**

*(Epistle)*

10

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

11

persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

12

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

13

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

14

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

15

and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**Luke 18:10-14**

*(Gospel)*

10

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

11

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

12

I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

13

And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’

14

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**CANDLE DESK DUTY**

February 1 – Tim Savisky

February 8 – Daria Ploski-Slavin

If you cannot make your scheduled date, please switch with another member.

**CANDLES / DONATIONS**

- Lampatki over Royal Doors for the health & salvation of Christopher W. Savisky, from his family.
- Altar Table in loving memory of Martha Jankura, from her family.

**COFFEE-HOUR CLEAN-UP CREW ...** This week’s cleanup crew is Group K through O. If this is your week to help, please see crew chief Jerry Kopko for instructions.

**HOUSE BLESSINGS 2026 ...** It is our tradition to have house blessings in the days and weeks following the great Feast of Theophany on January 6. Please sign up for a house blessing on the sheet provided at the candle desk, or respond to Fr Mark's email, sent on December 22.

**POSTPONED AGAIN FROM LAST SUNDAY -- SWEARING-IN OF PARISH COUNCIL ...**

Due to Snowstorm Fern, we once again canceled services last weekend. His Grace, Bishop Benedict, approved our slate of elections for the Parish Council, so the council can be sworn in **today!**

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MTG ...** is scheduled for **today** (postponed from last Sunday due to the snowy conditions.

**SPACE HEATERS FOR SALE** ... We have 3 space heaters left at the \$50 per unit cost. Please see Jerry Kopko; checks should be made out to Holy Ghost Orthodox Church.

**LENTEN SOUP FUNDRAISER** ... starts on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sue Maugeri is looking for cooks! A sign-up sheet will be available in the basement on Sunday. Thank you!

**TAX DONATIONS** ... If anyone needs a donation form for the 2025 tax season, please see Sue Maugeri or email her at [suemaugeri@snet.net](mailto:suemaugeri@snet.net).

**SAVE THE DATE, FEBRUARY 7!** ... St. John's Orthodox Church on Mill Hill Avenue in Bridgeport has invited Holy Ghost and St. John's from Broadbridge Avenue to join them for a roast beef dinner. See attached flyer for more information.

**THE NEXT *SECOND SUNDAY* IS FEBRUARY 8**

Please see Ruth Sencio if you can provide a pot-luck brunch item for coffee fellowship. It is the last one before Great Lent. Thank you!



**MANY THANKS TO LEO CHAVEZ'S CREW FOR SNOW REMOVAL ON MONDAY**



**DONATIONS NEEDED** ... for snow removal of our parking lots and sidewalks. It was quite a job and a large expense. Bridgeport received 15.5" of snow! Thank you!

## **PARISH METRICS (FEBRUARY 1 THRU FEBRUARY 7)**

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Christopher Savisky, February 2

*God Grant him Many Years!      Многая лета!*

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

None listed

### **DEPARTED FROM THE PARISH METRICS**

FEBRUARY 1 – Nadezhda Sametinsky, 1923; Nicholas Henetz, 1939 (53); Martha Jankura, 1952 (70); Stephen Beloblosky, 1953 (67); Feodosia Kosloffsky, 1963 (74); Basil Trousoff, 1974 (86); Dimitry (James) Poranda, 1975 (82); Walter Beloblosky, 2000 (65); Nina Andrenyak, 2017 (87)

FEBRUARY 2 – Gregory Sharnik, 1897 (2 days); Joseph Titarenko, 1941 (51); Pelagia Denhup, 1945; Anna Naiden, 1945 (71); Dorothy Malsky, 1989 (62); George Bondaruk, 2008 (83)

FEBRUARY 3 – Helen Vanagel, 1958 (62)

FEBRUARY 4 – Michael Varga, 1902 (4 months); John Katrenich, 1907 (3); Peter Varga, 1907 (4); Dimitry Coba, 1956 (73); Joseph Havrilkin, 1969 (81); Anna Kotrady, 1974 (79); Nicholas Sedelnik, 1979 (62); Michael Jankura, 1992 (77); Margaret Pistey, 2007 (95)

FEBRUARY 5 – Anna Breyan, 1914 (5 months); Stephen Kochiss, 1925 (62); Maria Cherveniak, 1936 (53); Anna Kochiss, 1957 (76); Olga Bychkowski, 1976 (80); Anne Gulick Mackewich, 1996 (83); Nicholas Reut, 101 (2019)

FEBRUARY 6 – Vladimir Andrushkevich, 1980 (61)

FEBRUARY 7 – Maria Mizim, 1918 (67); Elizabeth Babayan, 1920 (6 months); Mary Verostek, 1969 (72); Stephanida Bujak, 1970 (80); Anna Lukasik Karpuk, 1979 (74); Joanna (Jennie) Popadic, 1983 (81); Michael Koltz, 1983 (77); Anastasia Maximishan Ledovsky, 1995 (75); Helen Bobko Cellar, 1995 (86)

*Memory Eternal!      Вечная память!*

